



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/691,518

10/18/2000

Zigurd Mednicks

BZM-00101

5117

25702

7590

01/28/2004

SCOTT C. RAND, ESQ.

MCLANE, GRAF, RAULERSON & MIDDLETON, PA

900 ELM STREET, P.O. BOX 326

MANCHESTER, NH 03105-0326

EXAMINER

GAUTHIER, GERALD

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2645

DATE MAILED: 01/28/2004

14

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/691,518

Applicant(s)

MEDNIEKS, ZIGURD

Examiner

Gerald Gauthier

Art Unit

2645

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11/03/2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 and 28-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 and 28-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. **Claims 1-10 and 28-30** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brennan et al. (US 4788,720) in view of Zhu (US 6,240,172) and in further view of LeDuc et al. (US 5,355,404).

Regarding **claim 1**, Brennan discloses a programmable subscriber set method (column 1, lines 4-8), (which reads on claimed "a method of program mapping telecommunication system features in a telecommunication system, comprising:

providing a central programming controller having a plurality of telecommunication system features (column 4, lines 21-31) [The PABX and the Centrex have a plurality of features];

providing a local instrument in communication with said central programming controller and comprising a plurality of switches (column 2, lines 23-41) [The programmable set is provided connected to a PABX or Centrex and having a predetermined soft keys];

prompting a user at said local instrument (column 3, lines 11-27) [The subscriber goes off-hook and the display would indicate the prompt messages];

receiving user input in response to said at least one prompt (column 3, lines 11-27) [The subscriber selected a desired special feature by pressing the soft key located directly below the corresponding prompt message]; and

Brennan fails to disclose prompting a user, using at least one of audible prompt selected from tones, beeps, buzzes, and voice prompts.

However Zhu teaches prompting a user, using at least one of audible prompt selected from tones, beeps, buzzes, and voice prompts provided by the central controller (column 4, lines 47-62) [The telephone company prompt the user for authorization transmitting a prerecorded voice message which read on at least one of the claimed limitations].

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the telephone company to prompt a user using voice prompts of Zhu in the PABX or Centrex of Brennan.

The modification of the invention would offer the capability of voice prompts to a user phone such as the system would remotely reconfigure the telephone set.

Brennan and Zhu fail to disclose storing data in a memory of the central programming controller.

However LeDuc teaches storing data in a memory of the central programming controller in response to said user input said data mapping a selected one of the plurality of telecommunication system features on the central programming controller to

Art Unit: 2645

a selected one of said plurality of switches on said local instrument (column 4, lines 33-41) [The switching system stores data for each served customer defining its status in response of the entries that the customer have requested].

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the switching system storing data for each customer of LeDuc in the invention of Brennan and Zhu.

The modification of the invention would offer the capability of the switching system storing data for each customer such as the system would track the status of customer stations for changes requested by the station.

Regarding **claim 2**, Brennan discloses remotely locating the central programming controller and a user interface from the user (column 3, lines 5-10); and

separating the central programming controller and the user interface from the user a telecommunication connection (column 3, lines 5-10).

Regarding **claim 3**, Brennan discloses physically locating the central programming controller in the same cabinet as the at least one local instrument in a telecommunications system controlled by the central programming controller (column 3, lines 5-10).

Regarding **claim 4**, Brennan discloses the local instrument is one of a telephone (column 3, lines 34-44).

Regarding **claim 5**, Brennan discloses the local switches include buttons on a telephone (column 3, lines 1-4).

Regarding **claim 6**, Brennan discloses the switches are local switches including at least one contact sensitive region of an electronic display (column 3, lines 1-4).

Regarding **claims 7 and 17**, LeDuc teaches the switches further comprise steady lights (1038 on FIG. 2).

Regarding **claim 8**, Brennan discloses the plurality of telecommunication system features further comprise call forwarding (column 4, lines 21-31).

Regarding **claim 9**, Brennan discloses the central programming controller is selected from a PBX and a key system (column 3, lines 5-10).

Regarding **claim 10**, Brennan discloses wherein the voice prompts are included in a voice prompt system of the telecommunication system, and the method further including:

using the prompt system to answer a telephone call (column 3, lines 45-56).

Regarding **claim 28**, Brennan discloses a programmable subscriber set (column 1, lines 4-8), (which reads on claimed “an apparatus for configuring a telecommunications system”), comprising:

a central programming controller (column 4, lines 21-31) [The PABX and the Centrex have a plurality of features];

a local instrument comprising a plurality of switches (column 2, lines 23-41) [The programmable set is provided connected to a PABX or Centrex and having a predetermined soft keys]; and

one or more programs, performed by the central programming controller, prompting a user at said local instrument (column 3, lines 11-27) [The subscriber goes off-hook and the display would indicate the prompt messages];

receiving user input in response to said at least one prompt (column 3, lines 11-27) [The subscriber selected a desired special feature by pressing the soft key located directly below the corresponding prompt message];

generating a map mapping a selected one of a plurality of telecommunication system features in the central programming controller to a selected one of a the plurality of switches on said local instrument in response to said user input (column 3, lines 45-68) [The users while on-hook depresses various keys corresponding to a prompt message from PABX to program the different soft keys of the user terminal].

Brennan fails to disclose prompting a user, using at least one of audible prompt selected from tones, beeps, buzzes, and voice prompts.

However Zhu teaches prompting a user, using at least one audible prompt selected from tones, beeps, buzzes and voice prompts (column 4, lines 47-62) [The telephone company prompt the user for authorization transmitting a prerecorded voice message which read on at least one of the claimed limitations].

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the telephone company to prompt a user using voice prompts of Zhu in the PABX or Centrex of Brennan.

The modification of the invention would offer the capability of voice prompts to a user phone such as the system would remotely reconfigure the telephone set.

Brennan and Zhu fail to disclose storing the map in a memory of the central programming controller.

However LeDuc teaches storing the map in a memory of the central programming controller (column 4, lines 33-41) [The switching system stores data for each served customer defining its status in response of the entries that the customer have requested].

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the switching system storing data for each customer of LeDuc in the invention of Brennan and Zhu.

The modification of the invention would offer the capability of the switching system storing data for each customer such as the system would track the status of customer stations for changes requested by the station.

Regarding **claim 29**, Brennan discloses wherein the central programming controller is a PBX (column 3, lines 5-10).

Regarding **claim 30**, Zhu teaches, wherein the central programming controller comprises a voice processing system for said prompting step and for handling incoming calls (column 4, lines 47-62).

3. **Claims 11-16 and 18** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brennan in view of Zhu.

Regarding **claim 11**, Brennan discloses a programmable subscriber set method (column 1, lines 4-8), (which reads on claimed "a method of program mapping selected ones of a plurality of PBX system features to selected ones of a plurality of telephone buttons on a telephone receiver"), the method comprising:

using prompts (column 3, line 54 "prompt signal") to a user (column 3, line 50 "the user") at the telephone receiver (column 3, line 46 "the set") and the telephone buttons (column 3, lines 45-56) [The user depresses a soft key to confirm that a PBX feature is to be programmed and the prompt signal is associated with the key]; and

generating the prompts (column 3, line 55 "YES") by at least one user interface (column 3, line 55 "key 2") connected to the PBX (column 3, lines 53-68) [The prompt signals are successively displayed in response of depressing different keys by the user].

Brennan fails to disclose voice prompts to a user.

However Zhu teaches voice prompts to the user (column 4, lines 47-62) [The telephone company prompt the user for authorization transmitting a prerecorded voice message which read on at least one of the claimed limitations].

It would have been obvious to one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the telephone company to prompt a user using voice prompts of Zhu in the PABX or Centrex of Brennan.

The modification of the invention would offer the capability of voice prompts to a user phone such as the system would remotely reconfigure the telephone set.

Regarding **claim 12**, Brennan discloses remotely locating the central programming controller and a user interface from the user (column 3, lines 5-10); and separating the central programming controller and the user interface from the user a telecommunication connection (column 3, lines 5-10).

Regarding **claim 13**, Brennan discloses physically locating the central programming controller in the same cabinet as the at least one local instrument in a telecommunications system controlled by the central programming controller (column 3, lines 5-10).

Regarding **claim 14**, Brennan discloses the local instrument is one of a telephone (column 3, lines 34-44).

Regarding **claim 15**, Brennan discloses the local switches include buttons on a telephone (column 3, lines 1-4).

Regarding **claim 16**, Brennan discloses the switches are local switches including at least one contact sensitive region of an electronic display (column 3, lines 1-4).

Regarding **claim 18**, Brennan discloses the plurality of telecommunication system features further comprise call forwarding (column 4, lines 21-31).

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to **claims 1-18 and 28-30** have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gerald Gauthier whose telephone number is (703) 305-0981. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on (703) 305-4895. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4800.

g.g.
January 16, 2004

FAN TSANG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

